

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

MON 13th April	Easter Octave	Bonifacio Fernandes People of the parish
TUES 14th April		Private Intention People of the parish
WED 15th April		Bill Gallagher Anniv People of the parish
THUR 16th April		Private Intention People of the parish
FRI 17th April		Trudy Farley RIP People of the parish
SAT 18th April		Bill and Mary Devlin Anniv Cormac Ryan RIP
SUN 19th April	2nd Sunday of Easter—Divine Mercy Sunday	Martin Mullen RIP Emerita Mercado-Gracia—Intention

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
is sponsored for Pascal Charles James RIP

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL—For those suffering an ADDICTION. We pray that they may be helped and accompanied at this time.

MAKING CONTACT AT HOLY ROOD

Charity No: 233699

Parish Priest:	Fr Derek McGuire	derekmcguire@rcdow.org.uk	(☎)Opt 3)
Assistant Priest:	Fr Joseph Okoro	josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk	(☎)Opt 4)
Deacon:	Rev Neville Dyckhoff	nevilleydyckhoff@rcdow.org.uk	(☎)Opt 5)
Parish Secretary:	Martha Stuart-Berrisford	watford@rcdow.org.uk	(☎)Opt 2)
Office hours:	Send an email or phone		

Address: Holy Rood House, Exchange Road, Watford. WD18 0PJ. (01923) 224085

website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford/>

Other Parish Contacts: Safeguarding Representatives: Siobhan Garibaldi, Andrew Danquah and Bridget Basnayake

Hospital Chaplain: Deacon Anthony 07876 526935 or emailing: anthonycurran@rcdow.org.uk

Sunday 12th April 2020
EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday cycle
Readings Year A
Psalms Easter
Week



And this changes everything....HE IS RISEN

Have a Joy-Filled Easter. All God's blessings

It might seem strange in the midst of the crisis of this pandemic to celebrate the Resurrection. But as Her Majesty the Queen said to the nation: "Better days will return." I am sure the Apostle could have done with hearing these words on the first Good Friday and throughout the Saturday that followed. Easter Sunday has demonstrated already that better days do indeed come. So let us continue to walk in the light of this hope. Remember the words of St. Augustine: "We are an Easter people and ALLELUIA is our song." Let us sing our song loudly by the lives we are living and bring hope and joy to others as they experience the Resurrection as the heart of our lives here on earth, getting us ready for eternal life in the future.

Wishing you and all your family a JOY-FILLED Easter Season and we continue to pray for an end to this current pandemic, a happy repose to the souls who have died and comfort for the families remaining at this difficult time.

Fr. Derek, Fr. Joseph and Deacon Neville

**Holy Rood
Catholic Church, Watford**



HAIL HOLY QUEEN Hail holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, hail our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

SUSPENSION OF ALL PUBLIC WORSHIP Dear All, It is with regret that I have to inform you that the Bishops' Conference has decided that **ALL** public forms of worship should be suspended in our churches and that **ALL** churches be closed and remained throughout England and Wales till further notice. This is obviously due to the CORONAVIRUS pandemic which is disturbing our lives at this present time. There will be no sacraments during this time – no confessions, no Holy Communion, no baptisms, no confirmations etc. Since no one knows when this ban will be lifted, let us continue to unite ourselves SPIRITUALLY in a way that God can show us. The newsletter gives us the link that we need in order for us to access MASS remotely from home with a number of different options. Myself and Fr. Joseph will be offering Mass privately for the intentions already booked for the coming weeks. However according to the guidelines Deacons are not permitted to be present at these Masses and so our own Deacon Neville will remain at home at this time. Let us continue to pray for a solution to this current issue sweeping through the world. Jesus told us “Do not be afraid.” Both of us continue praying for the needs of the parish in a particular way during this period. All God's blessings upon you and your families.

UBI ET URBI BLESSING On Friday 27th March, at St Peter's, Pope Francis imparted his apostolic blessing on all people around the world as we go through the storm of the coronavirus pandemic. For his words of encouragement and reflection on the present stormy climate, please follow this link: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-03/urbi-et-orbi-pope-coronavirus-prayer-blessing.html>

GETTING MARRIED? The next marriage preparation course was due to be on the 2nd May at Holy Rood for those intending to marry in 2020/21. in the light of our present situation we have CANCELLED this event but we will keep you updated as and when we have further details. Depending on future developments there may be a disruption to the dates for marriages already booked. This is due to the fact that the Government are giving the public clear guidelines for family celebrations and other social settings. Let us hope and pray that the present situation will pass soon and weddings can go ahead.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL Saturday 30th May, 3pm. THIS MASS HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO THE CURRENT SITUATION. All couples will be informed by Martha, our parish secretary.

PROVIDING SUPPORT DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC. Whilst many of us will have family and friends to support us during the current situation there may be members of our community who will find themselves in need of help and assistance. If you require help during this difficult time please contact the parish on 01923 224 085 and Father Derek and Father Joseph will work with the parish volunteer groups, including the SVP, to try and assist you as much as possible.

INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS. The 52nd International Eucharistic Congress will be taking place from **14th – 21st September 2020** in Budapest, Hungary. This wonderful week of catechesis, Mass, processions and cultural events will bring together people from around the world to deepen our devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. The Archbishop of Esztergom-Budapest, Cardinal Erdő, has invited all of us in the Diocese of Westminster to take part. All travel arrangements from England, accommodation and entry to the events is being organised by Tangney Tours, with 5 night and 7 night options available. To find out more and to book, visit www.iec.tours

THE MASS ONLINE. If you have access to a computer or smartphone you can follow a live-streaming of Masses online by going to www.churchservices.tv or <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/how-to-participate-in-mass-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/> and then search for one of the following parishes and a few more: St Joseph and the English Martyrs, Bishops Stortford; St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Borehamwood; St Mary, Hampstead; St Anselm and St Cecilia, Lincolns Inn Fields, Our Lady of Lourdes, New Southgate; St Monica, Palmers Green; Holy Apostles, Pimlico; Our Lady & St Vincent, Potters Bar; St Thomas More, Swiss Cottage. Mass times are available online.

MASS REQUESTS/OFFERINGS If you would like to offer masses for your intentions, please phone the parish number and dial 3 for Fr. Derek or 4 for Fr. Joseph to book a Mass over the phone.

**Watford Food Bank continues to receive contributions. People can leave things at the presbytery or you could donate financially—
www.watfordfoodbank.co.uk**

WEEKLY COLLECTION: Some people have contacted us regarding their Sunday offerings. As we cannot come in to the church at this time, we suggest that you keep aside your weekly offering and when we return to normal practice, you will be able to give your offerings then. THANK YOU. We are also grateful to those who give by Standing Order as these continue in this time of crisis, there is some income for the parish. THANK YOU—it is such a help at this time.

Bedord, Morison and Cordery ALMSHOUSE charity—offering accommodation for single men and women, over 60 and capable of independent living. The Charity does not offer medical care. Further details contact: Site Manager on 07957945718 or a Trustee on 07785223860

It has been wonderful for myself, Fr. Joseph and Deacon Neville to talk to so many of our parishioners on the phone during the last week. Thank you for all your offers of support at this time. Thanks to the few families who have contacted us with their details. IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN CONTACTED—please phone us –to let us know how you are –as we may have a wrong number for you.

**WEEKLY COLLECTION
NO PUBLIC MASS—no collection.**

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED
Elizabeth Jacques, Lucia Sepe,
Peter Ahern, Kathleen Murphy,
Stuart Bell, John Rellis

ANNIVERSARIES
Bill Gallagher, Bill & Mary Devlin.
Eternal rest grant to them O Lord